(b) if so, what are the details thereof and by when the code is likely to be brought into effect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Pending cases in Punjab and Haryana High Court

685. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH SURJEWALA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what is the backlog of cases pending in the Punjab and Haryana High Court and the steps being taken to clear the same; and

(b) what is the number of pending cases for more than 5 years and 10 years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b) As on 30-6-1992, 105419 cases were pending in the Punjab and Haryana High Court. Out of these, 31797 and 6950 cases were pending for more than 5 years and 10 years respectively. The various recommendations made by the Arrears Committee, which examined the problem of arrears in the Courts, covering various aspects like Jurisdictional and procedural modifications/improvements in the Judiciary, improvements in infrastructural facilities including modernisation of office equipments in Courts and in day to day working of Courts, giving priority to old cases, etc, have been commended of all State Governments/High Courts including the Punjab and Haryana High Court for necessary follow-up action.

Setting up of multi member Election Commission

686. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government proposes to set up multi member Election Commission;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It has not been considered necessary by the Government, for the present, to set up multi-member Election Commission.

राजस्थान में उच्च न्यायालय में विचाराधीन मामले

687. श्री शिव चरण सिंह : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राजस्थान में उच्च न्यायालय में कितने मामले विचाराधीन हैं;

(ख) सबसे पुराना मामला कब से विचाराधीन है;

(ग) न्यायाधीशों के कितने पद कब से रिक्त हैं; और

(घ) इन पदों को इतनी लंबी अवधि तक न भरे जाने के कारण क्या हैं ?

विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री हंसराज भारद्वाज) : (क) और (ख) जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन के पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

(ग) 2-11-1992 को, राजस्थान उच्च न्यायालय में पद स्थायी न्यायाधीश का (10-9-1992 से) और दो पद अपर न्यायाधीश के (11-8-1992 से) रिक्त हैं ।

(घ) न्यायाधीशों के रिक्त पद भरने के लिए, सम्बद्ध संवैधानिक प्राधिकारियों के बीच परामर्श की प्रक्रिया जारी है ।

Drive to clean up the Corporate Sector

688. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Company Affairs has launched a major drive to clean up the corporate sector and resolve investors' complaints;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Department has identified any companies affairs of which need to be investigated;

(d) if so, the details of such companies; and

(e) the nature of investigations required to be undertaken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b) The Department of Company Affairs undertakes inspection of the books of account of a number of companies, on routine basis as also on the basis of complaints, to ensure compliance of the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956. The Department has also taken, *inter-alia*, the following steps to resolve investors' complaints by issue of Press Notes and circulars to Chambers of Commerce and Industry :—

(a) Revision of format of prospectus under Shedule II of the Companies Act providing for greater transparancy about the affairs of a company and mandatory circulation of abridged prospectus with the application form;

(b) Recognition of stock invest instrument for payment of share application money;

(c) Issue of letters of offer for rights issue to the shareholdrers by registered post, besides issue of refund orders/allotment letters/share certificates;

(d) Ensuring that employees' option to subscribe for equity capital of companies is strictly administered in their favour;

(e) Ensuring that provisions relating to private placement of shares are not misused by the companies concerned, their promoters and intermediaries.

Prosecution action has been taken for default under the Companies Act, where warranted.

(c) to (e) The Department has conducted inspection of the books of account of a number of companies under Section 209A of the Act during the last three years, as under :—

Period	Inspection reports submitted
1-4-1990 to 31-3-1991	119
1-4-1991 to 31-3-1992	160
1-4-1992 to 31-10-1992	86

Apart from the inspections conducted, as above, inspection of 289 companies was ordered in June, 1992 regarding alleged delay in transfer of shares lodged by Stock Holding Corporation of India Ltd (SHCIL) with various companies. Out of inspection reports of 111 such companies received so far, prosecution has been ordered in respect of 57 companies under Section 113 of the Companies Act, 1956.

Accident claim cases pending in High Court in Gujarat

689. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of pending accident claim cases in district courts and High Court in Gujarat for settlement; and

(b) what action Government propose to take to dispose of these cases promptly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.